

Date of Hearing: July 5, 2021

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Laura Friedman, Chair

SCR 15 (Hueso) – As Amended April 5, 2021

**SENATE VOTE:** 37-0

**SUBJECT:** U.S. Army SP4 Dwayne M. Patterson Memorial Highway

**SUMMARY:** Designates a portion of State Route 111 in the County of Imperial, between postmile 33 and postmile 37.6, as the U.S. Army SP4 Dwayne M. Patterson Memorial Highway.

**EXISTING LAW:** Assigns the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways. This includes the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Unknown, but the measure requests that Caltrans determine the cost of appropriate signage consistent with requirements for the state highway system, and only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

**COMMENTS:** Dwayne Maxifield Patterson was born on November 20, 1941, in Elk City, Oklahoma. Dwayne attended high school in Oklahoma and at Calipatria High School in Calipatria, California, where he played baseball. After high school, Dwayne worked for Imperial Pre-Mix in El Centro, California.

Dwayne married Donna Siris of Calipatria on December 14, 1963. While employed at Imperial Pre-Mix, Dwayne was drafted into the United States Army in September 1965, where, after basic training, he was transferred to Ft. Bliss, Texas, and later to Ft. Polk, Louisiana, where he was adjudged the “Outstanding Trainee” in combat jungle warfare.

Dwayne was then transferred to Ft. Knox, Kentucky, to learn how to drive an Armored Personnel Carrier (APC), where he was runner-up for the top honors as an APC driver. Dwayne was transferred to Vietnam on March 26, 1967, where he was assigned to the “Big Red 1 Division”.

Soon after his arrival, Dwayne was driving an APC when his vehicle hit a land mine, and was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained. After recovering from those injuries, Dwayne was on a night defensive perimeter patrol on December 3, 1967, when his unit was ambushed. While the attack continued, and while Dwayne was bravely assisting in evacuating wounded personnel, he sustained a fatal injury. For his service to his country and ultimate sacrifice, Dwayne was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, Bronze Star for Outstanding Meritorious Service and exemplary professionalism against the enemy, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Medal, and National Defense Service Medal; and he wore the 1st Infantry Badge, Army Vietnam Class A Patch, 2nd Infantry Regiment Patch, and Combat Infantryman Badge.

Dwayne is survived by his widow, Donna Davis of Prosper, Texas, brothers Charles of Blythe, California, and Billy of Sun City, Arizona, and sister Darla Williams of Glendale, Arizona.

*According to the author, “This resolution designates the portion of State Route 111 between Young Road in the City of Calipatria and Schrimpf Road, which is south of the community of Niland, in the County of Imperial, as the “U.S. Army SP4 Dwayne M. Patterson Memorial Highway” to celebrate Specialist Patterson’s service to his country. For his fearless and selfless service to his nation, and the honor demonstrated in the successful effort to protect the lives of his fellow servicemen, Specialist Dwayne Patterson is deserving of recognition in order to highlight the legacy he established.”*

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:****Support**

None on file.

**Opposition**

None on file.

**Analysis Prepared by:** Julia Kingsley / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093